



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Wednesday - November 26, 2003

- ***In the West***, locally heavy rain and snow showers maintain wet conditions from the ***Cascades to the Pacific Coast***. Cooler, drier weather prevails elsewhere in the ***West***, with beneficial snow showers gradually diminishing in key winter wheat and watershed areas of the ***interior Northwest***.
- ***On the Plains***, a shallow, patchy snow cover from ***eastern Colorado and northwestern Kansas northward into Montana*** is providing winter wheat with topsoil moisture and some protection from lingering cold weather. Mild weather is confined to the ***southern Plains***, where dry conditions favor final summer crop harvesting but continue to limit winter wheat growth and establishment.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, a return to mild weather is melting the shallow snow cover in the ***lower Great Lakes region***, although soggy fields continue to slow final corn harvesting. Meanwhile, sub-soil moisture shortages remain a concern roughly northwest of a line stretching from the ***Ozark Plateau to Chicago***.
- ***In the South***, pastures and winter grains from the ***Delta westward*** are benefiting from recent soil moisture improvements, although cool weather continues to slow crop growth. Dry weather in the ***southern Atlantic region*** favors late-autumn fieldwork, including winter wheat planting and soybean and cotton harvesting.

Outlook: On Thanksgiving Day, a surface low and trailing cold front will provide the focus for showers and thundershowers across the ***East***. Behind the departing storm, cold, windy weather will be accompanied by lake-effect snow in the ***Northeast and central Appalachians***. In the ***West***, dry weather will cover the ***Plain States and Rockies***, while another storm moves onshore in the ***Pacific Northwest***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for December 1-5 depicts cool, stormy weather across ***northern and central California*** and the ***Northwest***. Meanwhile, little, if any, precipitation is expected across the ***Plains, Southwest, Southeast, and upper Midwest***. Near-normal precipitation is forecast, however, from ***eastern Texas northeastward into the Great Lakes and Northeastern States***. Except for the ***Northwest***, above-normal temperatures will dominate the Nation.

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Web Site: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf/AgWxHighlights/TODAYSWX.PDF>